

# **State Revolving Fund Loan Programs**

Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

#### PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

# CITY OF HAMMOND Operators Control Room Addition SRF # WW 05164502

Date: December 11, 2009

Target Project Approval Date: December 12, 2009

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in the City of Hammond Preliminary Engineering Report amendment submitted to the SRF on March 17, 2009 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

How were environmental issues considered?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an EA or an EIS.

Why is additional environmental review not required?

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

How do I submit comments?

Comments can be submitted to:

Amy Henninger, Senior Environmental Manager SRF Programs 317-232-6566; ahenning at ifa.in.gov

# CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

#### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address: Hammond Sanitary District

Amendment # 10

Operators Control Room Addition Columbia Avenue Pump Station

5143 Columbia Avenue Hammond, IN 46320

SRF Project Number:

WW 051645 02

Authorized Representative:

Dr. Michael T. Unger, Director

#### II. PROJECT LOCATION

The Hammond Sanitary District is located in the City of Hammond which is located in the Northwest corner of Lake County, Indiana. The proposed project will take place at the Columbia Avenue Pump Station which is at the Hammond Sanitary District's waste water treatment plant at 5143 Columbia Avenue. The pump station structure is located at the entrance to WWTP site (Figure 1).

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The existing operators control room is located approximately 2,000 feet from the main waste water treatment plant influent pump station. The construction of this 1,500 square foot operator's control room with offices will allow the operators of the facility to have an operation facility/monitoring station at the main pump station that pumps all of the influent waste water into the waste water treatment plant for treatment.

# IV. PROJECT COSTS, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING

A. Project Cost: \$150,000

B. The Hammond Sanitary District will use unspent funds remaining from SRF Loan WW 051645 02 to construct the proposed improvements. As of this date, \$10,518,463 remains unspent in that loan. Rates will not need to be raised to implement this project.

# V. Environmental Impacts of the Feasible Alternatives

Since this project will be constructed next to the existing main pump station there will be no negative environmental impacts. The ground in this area has been previously disturbed during various previous construction projects in the past. Therefore, this operator's control room addition project has no potential affect to historic sites. Our finding pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected" (Figure 2).

#### VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Hammond Sanitary District discussed the project at their regular public board meeting on May 12, 2009 at 4:00 pm at the Hammond Sanitary District Offices 5143 Columbia Avenue, Hammond. There were no public comments.

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